VISIT TO KAPI CREEK (NORTH DUNDAS)

by A. H. BLISSETT

Samples of quartz containing chalcopyrite were collected by F. MacCormick of Burnie in the Kapi Creek area and assayed by the Launceston laboratory on 13.12.56. The assay showed:

 Copper
 5.9%

 Gold
 Trace

 Silver
 1.3 oz. per ton

The samples were loose fragments collected over a fairly wide area on the surface, and not from a vein.

A visit was made to the area with A. MacCormick on 21.6.57.

Location

- 1. Approximately 12 chains due west of the point where the old North-East Dundas tramway crosses Kapi Creek.
- 2. About two miles north of Dundas township. (See attached geological sketchmap.)

Topography

The area visited is in hilly country, covered in timber and dense undergrowth, which is cut by small gullies. It lies between about 1450 feet and 1700 feet above sea-level, with slopes of about one in two.

Country Rocks

Hard and siliceous dark-grey Dundas slates, and quartzites.

Detail

There are two old adits driven into the hillside (Direction 240°). The upper drive is 60 feet long with a well-marked hanging wall dipping at about 70° to the south. About half way in, the vein splits, with the north part thinning out. The main vein consists of about two feet of quartz with some blebs of chalcopyrite which, at the end of the drive, appears to split into thin quartz stringers intermingled with the county rock.

Two samples were taken; one across two feet of vein about three feet from the end of the drive, and the other across four feet of the face.

The lower adit is about 40 feet below the upper and is driven about 90 feet along the same vein.

The hanging wall also dips at about 70° to the south.

A sample was taken across one foot one inch of quartz vein, seven feet from the end of the drive.

In places the rocks are coated with thin films of azurite and malachite deposited by water percolating downwards from the upper adit.

About 100 yards up the hill from the adits, two small exposures were seen in a shallow gully. They were of vein quartz up to about nine inches thick with traces of chalcopyrite, striking at 45°. From this point, the bearing of the adits was 80°.

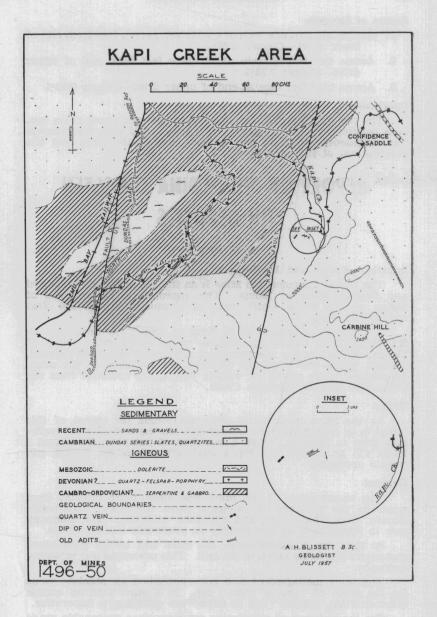
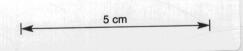


Plate 14



Assays of Samples

- Across one foot one inch of quartz vein, seven feet from end of lower drive—Copper 0.86%
- Across two feet of vein about three feet from end of upper drive—Copper 2.73%
- 3. Across four feet face at end of upper drive-Copper 0.58%

Conclusion

The two drives appear to have been prospected many years ago. It is possible that some copper ore was won, and that the prospect was abandoned owing to the thinning out of the vein, and the petering out of the chalcopyrite.